(b) if so, whether Government have caused or propose to review the definition of poverty line; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken or being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA DEHARESHWAR SAVANOOR): (a) The incidence of poverty is based on the poverty line adopted by the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor which defined the poverty line at national level as monthly per capita consumer expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily caloric requirement of 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. This way of deriving poverty line focusses on the purchasing power needed to meet the specific caloric intake standard with provision for non-food consumption needs such as clothing, shelter, health etc.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Basic Minimum Services in Gujarat

1044. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cent per cent coverage of primary health facilities and provision of safe drinking water to all are the two basic services out of the seven Basic Minimum Services (BMS) set forth by Government;

(b) if so, the action Government have taken, so far to provide these two basic services under BMS in the State of Gujarat with details thereof; and

(c) what cooperation is being extended by the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA DEHARESHWAR SAVANOOR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to complement the efforts of the State Government of Gujarat to ensure access of all its people to the Basic Minimum Services (BMS) which includes primary health facilities and safe drinking water, the Central Government is providing Additional Central Assistance (ACA). While in 1996-97, Rs. 52.58 crores of ACA was provided for BMS to Gujarat, in 1997-98 this was enhanced to Rs. 72.58 crores. Out of this the State Government has allocated the following amounts for primary health and safe drinking water facilities.

(Rs. in crores)

Sector	1996-97	1997-98
Health	18.76	12.09
Water Supply	26.29	36.29

In order to ensure effective implementation of the BMS programme, a comprehensive system of quarterly monitoring has been introduced by the Planning Commission. Both financial and physical monitoring of the BMS programme is envisaged under the system.

(c) State Government of Gujarat is adequately providing resources to achieve the targets laid down under the BMS programme. The State Plan outlay during 1996-97 and 1997-98 for health and water supply are as follows.

(Rs. in crores)

Sector	1996-97	1997-98
Health	22.17	120.50
Water Supply	94.80	102.00

The progress of the implementation of the BMS programme is being reviewed periodically by the State Government at various levels. All efforts are being made to spend the allocated funds under the various schemes of the BMS.